

city; in short, the two were so much identified in interest and every thing else that they might be regarded as inseparable and not to be disconnected, and bring those distinguished citizens, to almost every intent and purpose, citizens of Baltimore.

Now, if he concurred entirely in the principle which the gentleman from Frederick wished to establish, that numbers should be exclusively regarded in the election of members of the House of Delegates, then he [Mr. D.] should think that they ought to be so regarded in reference to the election of Governor; but there was a qualification to this abstract rule, resulting from the fact that the State was divided into three districts, from one of which he was to be selected. What, he asked, was the design of this? It was not a mere arbitrary arrangement without object or benefit to the residents of the respective districts. It was designed that the Governor should be identified in interest with the inhabitants of the district from which he should be elected, and represent them accordingly. Baltimore city, by her numbers, could name the person it desired when the selection was to be made from the Baltimore district, and it could, by its preponderating influences in the election, have the power at any time of selecting one of its precinct citizens, virtually one of its own citizens, from the district of which Baltimore county was a component part. Thus, virtually, the city of Baltimore would possess the power, in both the Western Shore districts, of selecting a person virtually its own citizen for the office of Governor. He did not mean to assert, because he had no personal knowledge, that gentlemen had removed beyond the city limits into Baltimore county, with a design to insure their elevation to the Gubernatorial chair. Oh no! But if public rumor be true, (and it sometimes tells the truth, Sir,) distinguished citizens of the city have selected their residences over the divisional line, to give to their fellow citizens an opportunity to select as Governor a person more eminently qualified to serve them. Of such proceedings, Mr President, in the abstract, I do not complain; they doubtless proceed from the most elevated principles of patriotism, and free from every motive of self-aggrandizement; but I object to them because they are subversive of the fundamental principles on which our district system is founded, and give to the city of Baltimore the power of, in effect, making the Governor at every election in both the Western districts. This is unjust, and a covert violation of the spirit and intent of our State constitution, which ought to be prevented; and the sure and only remedy is, by uniting Baltimore county and city in the same district. He didn't mean to cast the slightest insinuation upon the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Buchanan,) and he really was surprised that the gentleman thought his remarks could possibly apply to him. (Laughter.)

He did not know what length of time the gentleman might have resided in the county. It might have been since or it might have been before the constitutional provisions of 1836 went into operation. He had never heard it men-

tioned that he was a candidate for the office of Governor, nor should he ever have suspected it but for the remarks which had just fallen from the gentleman. Nothing was further from his design than that his remarks should be applied as they had been impliedly by the gentleman himself. [Reiterated laughter.] If, then, the districts were suffered to remain as they now are, subject to the amendment proposed by the gentleman from Charles, of attaching Harford county to the Eastern Shore district, what would be the consequence? Why, that Baltimore might in all time to come, in effect, choose its own citizens as Governors of the two Western Shore districts, and that the Eastern Shore district might forever hereafter be represented in the gubernatorial chair by Governors resident on the Western Shore, and who had never in the course of their lives been for one moment on the peninsula between the Chesapeake and Delaware bays. And all this, in his opinion, could be accomplished by the city of Baltimore, if it desired it. To confide such power to the city of Baltimore never could be sanctioned by his vote.

Baltimore county and city ought to be united in the same district; the interests of the rest of the State demand it. They naturally belong to each other. The interest of the one is the interest of the other—one and indivisible in all elections of Governor. Let them for ever remain.

His opinion was entirely different from that of the gentleman from Frederick, who said that it was immaterial whether Baltimore city or county was in the same or separate districts. He (Mr. D.) regarded it as of very great importance to which district Baltimore city and county were attached. The design of having gubernatorial districts was to confer rights on the counties, and not to leave every thing in the power of Baltimore city, and it was much more necessary, when you saw that it was disposed to grasp at all political power, at uncontrolled sway in every branch of our government. He thought that the Convention should carry out, according to their true spirit and design, those corporative principles in the old constitution which were designed to give some weight to the counties in the executive department of the government.

In districting the State, the design was that each gubernatorial district on the Western Shore should possess, as nearly as may be, an equal amount of population. By the great growth of the city of Baltimore within the last ten years, this equality of numbers in these districts was entirely changed, and whilst one contained a population of about 176,000, the other had a population of upwards of 278,000. This great inequality in numbers, violating all the principles upon which the district system was founded, renders a new arrangement of the districts indispensable, that a greater equalization of numbers might be effected. He had attentively examined the last censuses of the city of Baltimore and of the several counties of the Western Shore, and had carefully inspected the map